

Amendment
Application No. 10/502,296
Attorney Docket No. 042515

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 6, 8, 10 and 12-24 are pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 10 are herein amended. Claims 3-5, 7, 9 and 11 are cancelled.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1, 8, 11, 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by **Hasebe** (US 5,863,457); claims 12, 13, 16, 22 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hasebe in view of **Shiozaki** (US 5,193,020; cited in the IDS filed October 21, 2004); claims 2 and 6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hasebe in view of **Oka** (US 5,976,297); claims 14, 15, 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hasebe in view of Shiozaki and further in view of Oka (US 5,976,297); claims 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hasebe in view of **Broer** (US 5,506,704); claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hasebe in view of **Sarma** (US 5,717,474); and claim 24 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hasebe in view of Shiozaki and further in view of Sarma.

Favorable reconsideration is requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the cholesteric layer of claim 1 is produced from a liquid crystal monomer and a chiral dopant. Amended claim 1 also recites structural formulae of the liquid crystal monomer and the chiral dopant.

Applicants respectfully submit that Hasebe does not disclose that “the constituent molecule of the cholesteric layer is produced form a liquid crystal monomer and a chiral dopant”

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and Hasebe does not disclose the specific structures of the liquid crystal monomer and the chiral dopant as recited in claim 1.

Hasebe discloses an optical compensation layer with a cholesteric structure and the structure including an epoxy resin-based adhesive. However, Hasebe does not disclose that the constituent molecule is produced from a chiral dopant. Nor does Hasebe disclose the specific structure for the liquid crystal monomer or the chiral dopant. Therefore, Hasebe does not disclose the elements as recited in amended claim 1.

Claims 2, 6, 8, 10 and 12-24 either directly or indirectly depend from claim 1. Thus, these claims are patentable by virtue of their dependence from claim 1.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1, 2, 6, 8, 10 and 12-24 is hereby solicited.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

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If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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